

**NEWS RELEASE** 

**Department of Communications** 

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## City of South Fulton Joins in the Fight Against Human Trafficking

"Hang the Sign Campaign"

(CITY OF SOUTH FULTON, GEORGIA, Wednesday, September 12) During the City Council meeting on Tuesday, September 11, 2018, the City of South Fulton accepted the challenge issued by Fulton County Chairman Rob Pitts and the Fulton County Board of Commissioners to join in the fight against Human Trafficking.

With a unanimous vote, Mayor and City Council adopted Ordinance 2018-034. The ordinance, sponsored by District 3 Councilwoman Helen Willis, requires businesses to "Hang the Sign," which includes information about Human Trafficking.

Human sex trafficking, a crime considered to be a form of modern-day slavery, has become one of the leading crimes in the Metropolitan Atlanta Area and the State of Georgia. Additionally, the Federal Bureau of Investigation named Atlanta as one of 14 cities with the highest rate of children prostitution. According to the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, 7,200 men purchase sex with girls each month in the State of Georgia.

"With the City of South Fulton being the largest of the 8 cities in the South Fulton region and having all major interstates in its proximity, I thought it was important to be in the forefront of this significant issue plaguing Metro Atlanta," stated District 3 Councilwoman Helen Willis. "The City of South Fulton is less than 12 miles from the busiest airport in the nation and we have Old National Highway, Roosevelt Highway, parts of Fulton Industrial, and Oakley Industrial; all those areas are vulnerable to Human Trafficking. We are asking the community and businesses to work together with our Police Department to combat this issue and assist anyone they suspect of being a victim by encouraging them to seek help via the Georgia Hotline."

The sign includes contact information from the National Human Trafficking Resource Center Hotline (1-888-373-7888). Additionally, it lists the phone number for the Georgia Hotline for Domestic Minor Trafficking (1-844-842-3678.